IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE WESTERN DIVISION

FUSION ELITE ALL STARS, et al.,)
Plaintiffs,)
v.) No. 2:20-cv-2600-SHL-cgc
VARSITY BRANDS, LLC, et al.,)
Defendants.)

ORDER GRANTING AN EXTENSION OF STIPULATION FILING DEADLINE

On September 30, 2020, the Court held a scheduling conference in which it discussed dates and deadlines with counsel for Plaintiffs and Defendants. (ECF No. 54, 55.) The Parties agreed to a schedule for alternative dispute resolution, and the Scheduling Order was entered by the Court on October 15, 2020. (ECF No. 61.) The Parties were ordered to file a stipulation designating a mediator by October 23, 2020, and to hold an "Initial Intervention" by December 23, 2020. (ECF No. 61.) Defendants have since filed three Notices of Mediation Status, and Plaintiffs filed one Notice regarding the mediation plan. (ECF Nos. 67, 68, 69, 70.) Plaintiffs wish to continue with a mediation by December 23, 2020, while Defendants are concerned that Plaintiffs will not engage in good faith. (ECF Nos. 69, 70.) In their most recent Notice, Defendants seek an extension of the deadline to select a mediator.

In the future, the Parties are encouraged to resolve any issues that do not interfere with the Court's Orders privately, rather than in filings with the Court, unless the Court needs to resolve the dispute. As for now, the only issue before the Court is the required stipulation, a filing which should reflect whether or not the Parties have agreed to a mediator. As to that issue, the Court, finding good cause, **GRANTS** an extension of time to select a mediator by stipulation to **October**

30, 2020. The Court reminds the Parties that they are required by the Scheduling Order to engage in mediation by December 23, 2020. (ECF No. 61.) To be clear, the question for the Parties is not whether to conduct alternative dispute resolution, but who will oversee that resolution. The only issue to which the Parties need stipulate is the selection of the mediator. If agreement cannot be reached, the Court will identify a mediator.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 26th day of October, 2020.

s/ Sheryl H. Lipman SHERYL H. LIPMAN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE